

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 35 and add new claims 37-52, as indicated below, so that the pending claims are as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A compound comprising a peptide moiety, a spacer moiety, and a water-soluble polymer moiety wherein the spacer moiety is between the peptide moiety and the water-soluble polymer moiety and having the structure:



wherein α , β , γ , δ , and ϵ are each integers whose values are independently selected.

Claim 2 (Original): The compound of claim 1, wherein

α is an integer, $1 \leq \alpha \leq 6$;

β is an integer, $1 \leq \beta \leq 6$;

ϵ is an integer, $1 \leq \epsilon \leq 6$;

δ is 0 or 1;

γ is an integer, $0 \leq \gamma \leq 10$; and

Y is either NH or CO.

Claim 3 (Original): The compound of claim 2, wherein $\gamma > 1$ and $\beta = 2$.

Claim 4 (Original): The compound of claim 1 wherein

$\alpha = \beta = \epsilon = 2$;

$\gamma = \delta = 1$; and

Y is NH.

Claim 5 (Original): The compound of claim 1 wherein the water-soluble polymer moiety is a poly(ethylene glycol) moiety.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): The compound of claim 5 wherein the molecular weight of the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety is 20 KDalton or more.

Claim 7 (Original): The compound of claim 5, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety is linear.

Claim 8 (Original): The compound of claim 5, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety has a molecular weight from 20 to 40 KDalton.

Claim 9 (Original): The compound of claim 5, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety has polydispersity value (M_w/M_n) of less than 1.20.

Claim 10 (Original): The compound of claim 1, wherein the peptide moiety is peptide monomer comprising a single peptide.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The compound of claim 1, wherein the peptide moiety is a peptide dimer comprising two ~~peptides~~ peptide monomers linked by a linker moiety.

Claim 12 (Original): The compound of claim 10 or 11, wherein each peptide comprises no more than 50 amino acid monomers.

Claim 13 (Original): The compound of claim 12, wherein each peptide comprises between about 10 and 25 amino acid monomers.

Claim 14 (Original): The compound of claim 1, wherein the peptide moiety comprises one or more peptides which bind to erythropoietin-receptors.

Claim 15 (Original): The compound of claim 1, wherein the peptide moiety comprises one or more peptides which bind to thrombopoietin-receptors.

Claim 16 (Original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising

- (a) a compound comprising a peptide moiety, a spacer moiety, and a water-soluble polymer moiety wherein the spacer moiety is between the peptide moiety and the water-soluble polymer moiety and having the structure



wherein α , β , γ , δ , and ε are each integers whose values are independently selected; and

- (b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable diluents, preservatives, solubilizers, emulsifiers, adjuvants and/or carriers.

Claim 17 (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein

α is an integer, $1 \leq \alpha \leq 6$;

β is an integer, $1 \leq \beta \leq 6$;

ε is an integer, $1 \leq \varepsilon \leq 6$;

δ is 0 or 1;

γ is an integer, $0 \leq \gamma \leq 10$; and

Y is either NH or CO.

Claim 18 (Original): The composition of claim 17, wherein $\gamma > 1$ and $\beta = 2$.

Claim 19 (Original): The composition of claim 16 wherein

$\alpha = \beta = \varepsilon = 2$;

$\gamma = \delta = 1$; and

Y is NH.

Claim 20 (Original): The composition of claim 16 wherein the water-soluble polymer moiety is a poly(ethylene glycol) moiety.

Claim 21 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 20 wherein the molecular weight of the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety is 20 KDalton or more.

Claim 22 (Original): The composition of claim 20, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety is linear.

Claim 23 (Original): The composition of claim 20, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety has a molecular weight from 20 to 40 KDalton.

Claim 24 (Original): The composition of claim 20, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety has polydispersity value (M_w/M_n) of less than 1.20.

Claim 25 (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein the peptide moiety is peptide monomer comprising a single peptide.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): The composition of claim 16, wherein the peptide moiety is a peptide dimer comprising two ~~peptides~~ peptide monomers linked by a linker moiety.

Claim 27 (Original): The composition of claim 25 or 26, wherein each peptide comprises no more than 50 amino acid monomers.

Claim 28 (Original): The composition of claim 27, wherein each peptide comprises between about 10 and 25 amino acid monomers.

Claim 29 (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein the peptide moiety comprises one or more peptides which bind to erythropoietin-receptors.

Claim 30 (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein the peptide moiety comprises one or more peptides which bind to thrombopoietin-receptors.

Claim 31 (Original): The compound of claim 1, wherein

$$\alpha = 2;$$

$$\gamma = \delta = \beta = \varepsilon = 0; \text{ and}$$

Y is CO.

Claim 32 (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein

$$\alpha = 2;$$

$$\gamma = \delta = \beta = \varepsilon = 0; \text{ and}$$

Y is CO.

Claim 33 (Original): The compound of claim 5 wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety comprises at least one monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chain.

Claim 34 (Original): The compound of claim 33 wherein each poly(ethylene glycol) chain has a molecular weight from 20 to 40 KDaltons.

Claim 35 (Currently amended): The composition of [[16]] claim 20 wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety comprises at least one monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chain.

Claim 36 (Original): The compound of claim 35 wherein each poly(ethylene glycol) chain has a molecular weight from 20 to 40 KDaltons.

Claim 37 (New): The compound of claim 5, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety comprises two monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chains.

Claim 38 (New): The compound of claim 37, wherein each monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chain has a molecular weight from 20 to 40 KDaltons.

Claim 39 (New): The compound of claim 37, wherein the two monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chains are linked together through a lysine residue.

Claim 40 (New): The compound of claim 37, wherein the two monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chains are linked together through a lysine amide.

Claim 41 (New): The composition of claim 20, wherein the poly(ethylene glycol) moiety comprises two monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chains.

Claim 42 (New): The composition of claim 41, wherein each monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chain has a molecular weight from 20 to 40 KDaltons.

Claim 43 (New): The composition of claim 41, wherein the two monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chains are linked together through a lysine residue.

Claim 44 (New): The composition of claim 41, wherein the two monomeric poly(ethylene glycol) chains are linked together through a lysine amide.

Claim 45 (New): The compound according to claim 11, wherein:

the linker moiety has the structure $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_\eta-\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_\phi-\text{CO}-$,
N of the linker moiety is covalently attached to Y of the spacer moiety,
Y of the spacer moiety is CO, and
 η and ϕ are integers whose values are independently selected.

Claim 46 (New): The compound of claim 45, wherein

η is an integer $1 \leq \eta \leq 6$; and

φ is an integer $1 \leq \varphi \leq 6$.

Claim 47 (New): The compound of claim 46, wherein $\eta = \varphi = 1$.

Claim 48 (New): The compound of claim 45, wherein

- (i) one or both peptide monomers comprise a lysine residue having an ϵ -amino group, and
- (ii) one or both CO linkages of the linker moiety form an amide bond with the ϵ -amino group.

Claim 49 (New): The composition according to claim 26, wherein:

the linker moiety has the structure $-\text{CO}-(\text{CH}_2)_\eta-\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_\varphi-\text{CO}-$,
N of the linker moiety is covalently attached to Y of the spacer moiety,
Y of the spacer moiety is CO, and
 η and φ are integers whose values are independently selected.

Claim 50 (New): The compound of claim 49, wherein

η is an integer $1 \leq \eta \leq 6$; and
 φ is an integer $1 \leq \varphi \leq 6$.

Claim 51 (New): The compound of claim 50, wherein $\eta = \varphi = 1$.

Claim 52 (New): The compound of claim 49, wherein:

- (i) one or both peptide monomers comprise a lysine residue having an ϵ -amino group, and
- (ii) one or both CO linkages of the linker moiety form an amide bond with the ϵ -amino group.

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